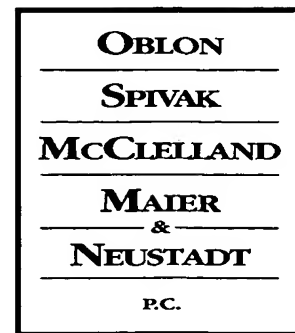




Docket No.: 250882US25CONT

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313



ATTORNEYS AT LAW

RE: Application Serial No.: 10/675,816  
Applicants: Johann J NEISZ, et al.  
Filing Date: September 30, 2003  
For: SURGICAL ARTICLES AND METHODS  
Group Art Unit: 3736  
Examiner: GILBERT, S.

SIR:

Attached hereto for filing are the following papers:

**PROVISIONAL ELECTION TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

Our credit card payment form in the amount of \$0.00 is attached covering any required fees. In the event any variance exists between the amount enclosed and the Patent Office charges for filing the above-noted documents, including any fees required under 37 C.F.R 1.136 for any necessary Extension of Time to make the filing of the attached documents timely, please charge or credit the difference to our Deposit Account No. 15-0030. Further, if these papers are not considered timely filed, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for the necessary extension of time. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,  
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Charles L. Gholz

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W. Todd Baker

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IN RE APPLICATION OF	:
JOHANN J NEISZ, ET AL.	: EXAMINER: GILBERT, S.
SERIAL NO: 10/675,816	:
FILED: SEPTEMBER 30, 2003	: GROUP ART UNIT: 3736
FOR: SURGICAL ARTICLES AND METHODS	:

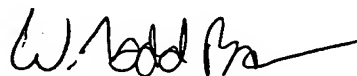
Applicants respectfully submit that a search of all the claims would not impose a serious burden on the Office. As all the claims are directed to similar articles, methods, and kits related to the treatment of urinary incontinence, the respective searches for each group would significantly overlap that for the other groups. Hence, no serious burden is imposed.

For the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully submit that the Restriction Requirement is improper, and respectfully request that it be withdrawn.

Applicants respectfully submit that the above-identified application is now in condition for examination on the merits, and early notice of such action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,  
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



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